

**From:** Chris Carrier [mailto:chriscarrier@branaghgroup.com]

**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2005 7:05 PM

**To:** MLPAComments@resources.ca.gov

**Cc:** YScuba@californiadivers.com

**Subject:** MLPAComments: MLPA protection

I am sending this email to express my concern that coastal waters around Monterey and Carmel will be losing protection through negotiations with various groups.

I recently moved to Monterey largely because of the quality of SCUBA diving in the area. I have been diving a year and have around 60 dives in the Monterey/Carmel waters photographing plants and animals. There's nothing like else like it. From vibrantly colored little nudibranchs to sweeping underwater vistas in a kelp forest we have it all around here. My brother regularly drives 6+ hours just to spend a couple days diving in our waters. Reducing the protection in this area would be a big mistake and could prove disastrous for the future of popular dive locations in the Monterey Bay.

Specifically I would like to see the Ricketts Park get full reserve protection. I've dived many times in the area included in this park. It is absolutely ideal for diving because of the ease of access and protection from swell but rarely do you see any fish that would be legal take. There are better places for the hunters/fishermen to catch fish than the area inside this park.

Lastly I want to say that I oppose the Conservation Proposal and hope that serious consideration be taken before giving up any protection already won. These resources should not be taken for granted, but at the rate we're going I'll be lucky if my grandkids will be able to dive in this area and see the beauty I do now.

Regards,

Chris Carrier  
Monterey, CA